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## Reminders

### 2022 HIPAA/OSHA/BLS TRAINING

Get your 2022 HIPAA, mandatory OSHA, & BLS training scheduled with MSD Compliance Coordinator Dwayne Downs at 302-366-1023.

### CERTIFIED MEDICAL OFFICE MANAGER COURSE (CMOM)

April 5, 12, 19, 26, 9:00am – 4:00pm. To register <https://reg.planetreg.com/CMOMDOVER2023>.

### MSD'S PUBS & POLITICS IS COMING TO SUSSEX COUNTY

February 21st beginning at 5:30 p.m. at JD Shucker's in Georgetown. To register <https://tinyurl.com/bddphdhy>

### MSD'S HOT TOPIC CME EVENT LGBTQ+ AND MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

March 22nd at 6:00 pm. To register <https://tinyurl.com/5ck8vst6>

## Contact MSD

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## Voluntary Nationwide Recall of Artificial Tears Drops

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced (<https://tinyurl.com/bdfrb7u9>) that Global Pharma Healthcare is voluntarily recalling all lots within expiry of their Artificial Tears Lubricant Eye Drops, distributed by EzriCare, LLC and Delsam Pharma to the consumer level due to possible contamination. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued (<https://tinyurl.com/2p9ys24m>) a Health Advisory about the outbreak of extensively drug-resistant pseudomonas aeruginosa found in more than 10 different brands of artificial tears, with the majority of those affected reporting using EzriCare Artificial Tears. To date there are 55 reports of adverse events including eye infections, permanent loss of vision, and a death with a bloodstream infection.

## CMS Public Health Emergency Resource Update

On January 30, 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration announced its intent to end the national emergency and public health emergency (PHE) declarations related to the COVID-19 pandemic on May 11, 2023. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has resources available to help you prepare for the end of the PHE, some of which have been updated based on recent action by Congress. CMS will continue to execute the process of a smooth operational wind down of the flexibilities enabled by the COVID-19 emergency declarations. The following materials reflect recent changes and are currently available on the CMS Emergencies Page (<https://tinyurl.com/4wv49rwp>): Provider-specific fact sheets for information about COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) waivers and flexibilities: <https://tinyurl.com/y2na6yzz>, CMS 1135 Waiver / Flexibility Request and Inquiry Form: <https://tinyurl.com/wyakpkn>, Acute Hospital At Home: <https://tinyurl.com/2s7n593u>, Updates will continue to be provided as we approach the end of the PHE. You are encouraged to regularly visit the CMS Emergencies Page for updated information.

## TMA Wins One of Several Challenges to No Surprises Act

The Texas Medical Association (TMA), in its second of four challenges to the No Surprises Act, had filed a lawsuit in September claiming the final rule in the Independent Dispute Resolution (IDR) process for out-of-network claims favored payers over physicians/other health care professionals providing services. The US District Court for the Eastern District of Texas granted TMA (<https://tinyurl.com/9r5hbj9m>) a motion of summary judgment. The Judge in the ruling indicated (<https://tinyurl.com/2p8cxfef>) that the interim final rule requires arbitrators to presume the correctness of the qualifying payment amount and then impose a heightened burden on the remaining statutory factors to overcome that presumption, concluding that the Rule conflicts with the No Surprises Act and is to be set aside under the Administrative Procedure Act. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is to design new regulations around the dispute resolution process.

## DEA Warns Public of a Widespread Fraud Scheme

The Drug Enforcement Administration is warning the public of a widespread fraud scheme in which scammers impersonate DEA agents in an attempt to extort money or steal personal identifiable information. DEA personnel will never contact members of the public or medical practitioners to demand money or any other form of payment, will never request personal or sensitive information, and will only notify people of a legitimate investigation or legal action in person or by official letter. In fact, no legitimate federal law enforcement officer will demand cash or gift cards from a member of the public. You should only give money, gift cards, personally identifiable information, including bank account information, to someone you know. Anyone receiving a call from a person claiming to be with DEA should report the incident to the FBI at [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov). The Federal Trade Commission provides recovery steps, shares information with more than 3,000 law enforcement agencies and takes reports at [reportfraud.ftc.gov](http://reportfraud.ftc.gov). For any victims who have given personally identifiable information like a social security number to the caller, can learn how to protect against identity theft at [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov).

## 2023 Premier Educational Program Partner Spotlight

Delaware Hospice is a part of the growing effort to keep our medical professionals educated through its partnership with MSD as a Premier Educational Program (PEP) Partner. Since 1982, Delaware Hospice has committed to its mission of providing the highest quality health care and resources to the communities it serves. Delaware Hospice empowers individuals and their caregivers with education to provide comfort and personal care. They will work to develop a care plan that includes everything from symptom management, which ensures patient's comfort, to emotional and spiritual support. Their goal is to provide a holistic approach that considers the combined medical, personal, emotional and spiritual needs of the individual, who, along with loved ones, are living with a life-limiting illness. For more information, visit <https://www.delawarehospice.org/>.